

NEMOPHILA

Meeting and Field Guide CALIFORNIA BOTANICAL SOCIETY

AUG. 24, 1920

NUMBER 9

The purpose of the Society is to promote the botanical study and investigation of California plants, to diffuse knowledge concerning them, and by lectures, field-trips, exhibitions and publications to deepen interest in the native flora amongst the people of California.

FIELD TRIPS AND MEETINGS

Wednesday, Aug. 25, 8:00 p. m. Room 11, Wheeler Hall, University of California, Berkeley. Lecture on the Redwoods of California, by Dr. Willis L. Jepson, Councillor of the Save the Redwoods League. Under auspices University Forestry Club. Illustrated by lantern slides. Members of this society are specially invited.

Sunday, Sept. 5. Lake Merced. Take car 12 at Ferry Building, San Francisco; go to gate of the Spring Valley Water Company beyond fountain on Sloat Boulevard. Meet there, 10 a. m. Bring lunch. Leader, Miss Alice King.

Saturday, Sept. 11. Regular Meeting, 8:00 p. m. Room 212, Agriculture Hall, University of California, Berkeley. Professor C. B. Bradley will present the results of his study of the phyllotaxy of the Date Palm.

Sunday, Sept. 19. Sea Cliff Dahlia Gardens, Aviary and Land's End, San Francisco. Take C car to California St. and 26th Ave. Meet there 10:30 a. m. Bring lunch. Leader, Mrs. Ynes M. de Reygadas.

Sunday, Oct. 3. San Pablo Reservoir. Meet at University and Shattuck Aves., Berkeley, 9 a. m. Take Euclid Ave. (Cragmont) car going east on University Ave. Go to end of line. Follow trail to reservoir. Lunch. Return by Telegraph trail to end of Northbrae car line. Eight miles. Leader, Mr. George C. Bartlett.

YERBA BUENA LEAVES

Dr. J. E. Kirkwood, Professor of Botany at the University of Montana, who has been doing research work at the University of California Herbarium during the past year, has returned to his post at Missoula.

Dr. F. J. Smiley, Assistant Professor of Economic Botany in the University of California, has resigned to become Professor of Botany in Occidental College, Los Angeles.

Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Parish of San Bernardino, have taken up their residence at 1624 Scenic Ave., Berkeley.

Mr. W. S. Malloch has been appointed to a position in the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas at College Station and will have charge of classes in pomology and plant breeding.

Dr. L. R. Abrams of Stanford University spent a week in April in an expedition through the Santa Lucia Mountains in company with Dr. Jaime de Angulo.

Dr. W. A. Setchell, who has been on leave of absence from the University of California during the past year, visited the Samoan Islands in the South Seas on a collecting trip during the summer.

Miss Alice M. Ottley, Miss A. E. Ehlers and Miss L. M. Newlon botanized for four weeks in June and July in the Tahoe region.

The Selma branch of this Society made a field trip up the Sand Creek road towards General Grant Park on May 15 and 16. This branch, which is under the leadership of Mrs. Harriett P. Kelly, is maintaining an exhibit of native plants in the public library at Selma.

Dr. Margaret C. Ferguson, Professor of Botany in Wellesley College and head of the department, is spending her sabbatical year in Berkeley.

Dr. H. J. Webber, until recently Professor of Plant Breeding in the University of California and Director of the Agricultural Experiment Stations, has resigned to become General Manager of the Pedigreed Seed Company, field seed specialists, Hartsville, North Carolina. It is with great regret that California botanists see Dr. Webber sever his relations with the University of California.

The officers of the Society are: President, Dr. W. L. Jepson; First Vice-President, Dr. W. S. Blasdale; Second Vice-President, Mr. A. L. Walker; Corresponding Secretary, Professor C. B. Bradley, 2639 Durant Ave., Berkeley; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss A. E. Ehlers, 2613 Durant Ave., Berkeley, telephone Berk. 3699; Second Corresponding Secretary, Professor Elizabeth Smith, College of Agriculture, Berkeley.

If you do not receive the publications of the Society it is because you are in arrears for dues. Dues for 1920, \$1.00, are now past due. Remit promptly to Miss Ehlers, 2613 Durant Ave., Berkeley, so that the work of the Society may not be handicapped.

For the purpose of obtaining information regarding the snapdragon rust and some of the closely related species, Dr. Blasdale desires to obtain for experimental use viable seeds of any of the native species of *Adenostegia* or *Cordylanthus* or any of the species of *Antirrhinum* except *A. virga*. Packets may be addressed him at 2514 College Ave., Berkeley, California.

QUERCUS AGRIFOLIA ON WARNER RANCH

The oaks of Warner Ranch have long been noted in the relations of travelers. The ranch is a large domain lying high in the Peninsular Range of San Diego County, at an altitude of 2700 to 3200 feet. From the ranch, by way of San Felipe Pass, one may in a few hours reach the level of the Colorado Desert. As one runs through this pass, grove after grove of these fine oaks succeed each other, the dark green crowns raising from a silvery level of undergrowth, the even colonies of the true Sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*). The assemblage is notable for the height and more especially the narrowness of the crowns of many trees. Towards the western end of the ranch, near the San Luis Rey River and eight miles west of Warner Springs, stands the famous individual known as the Rincon Oak. The trunk of this tree has been recently measured by Mr. J. A. Ream, who finds it to be 25 feet, 6 inches in circumference at the smallest part, which is about 4 feet above the ground.—W. L. Jepson.

YELLOW SKUNK CABBAGE IN THE SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS

Specimens of *Lysichiton kamschatcense* have recently been received from Mr. Geo. J. Streator, who collected them in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The leaf-blades of the largest leaves are 18 to 19 inches long and 8 to 10 inches wide; the petioles are 14 inches long; the spadix is $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long.

Mr. Streator, who is past three score and ten, but still alert and acute, writes of his field experience with this plant in the following vein: "On the road from Ben Lomond village up to Empire grade highway, at about 1000 feet elevation, is a little marsh formed from a spring that comes out higher up. This small area, where the Skunk Cabbage grows thriftily, is largely shaded. Out of its moisture saturated home spring the paddle-shaped blades near five feet in height. Much lower are the yellow but not vividly conspicuous flowers.

It was April 2 when, in sauntering step, I took in the beauty and fascinations of the way, looking for the little swamp that I first saw some ten years ago. I found the larger clumps in flower and carefully selecting plants and flowers for pressing, with a few small plants to test out in cultivation, over the mountain I strode homeward, richer in mind than if the find had been gold."

This coastal species is not elsewhere known in California south of the Russian River. It has also been reported from Ft. Bragg, Eureka and Little Van Duzen bridge.—W. L. Jepson.

RARE OR LITTLE-KNOWN SPECIES IN NEED OF COLLECTION

For California there are records of hundreds of species of native flowering plants which have been collected only once and specimens of which do not exist in collections in California. Many others still have been collected in only a single stage or are imperfectly known from certain areas. It is my purpose to give a list of such flowering plants from time to time in order that parties on trips may add special or additional objectives to their field work.

Calla palustris L. Reported from Glen Blair, Mendocino County, as if endemic (Zoe, 5:58).

Plectritis nitida Heller. Crystal Springs, San Mateo County, April or May.

Plectritis collina Heller. Mt. Hamilton, April or May.

Sanicula saxatilis Greene. Mt. Diablo, May.

Cicuta californica Gray. Leona Heights, July.

Euloplus californicus C. & R. Arroyo Hondo, Mt. Day, in Mt. Hamilton Range. This is a very remarkable parsley and field notes should be taken. June.

Howellia limosa Greene. Suisun, pools, April.

Downingia humilis Greene. Los Guilicos Valley, April or May.

Ranunculus Biolettii Greene. Los Guilicos Valley, April or May.

Downingia cuspidata Greene. Grain fields west of Yountville, April or May.

Osmorrhiza nuda Torr. Although the type was collected in "Napa Valley" in 1854 by Bigelow no specimen from that region is available to us to this day.

Malvastrum marrubioides D. & H. Ft. Miller, Fresno County, foothills. Also at same locality, *Hosackia lathyroides* D. & H. and *Godetia Williamsonii* D. & H.

Sidalcea rostrata Eastw. Mendocino City, May.

Juncus supiniformis Engelm. Ponds at Mendocino City. Probably May or June. Fruiting parts of this appear to be unknown in California collections.

Osmorrhiza bolanderi Gray. Lambert Lake, Mendocino County. This Sweet Cicely is not definitely known in California herbaria; the species is something of a mystery.

Heteranthera dubia MacM. Mendocino County. Collected 50 or 60 years ago by Vasey and not since rediscovered. A curious aquatic with yellow flowers.

The month indicated is only approximate. Directions for collecting were given in *Nemophila* No. 3.—W. L. Jepson, University of California, Berkeley.